EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH LITERACY

IRC will be offering the 2018-2019 Wired Wednesday Webinars for members only. Each webinar begins at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by an IRC Twitter Chat from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. at @ILReadCouncil #IRCPDEdChats. Participants who watch the live or recorded webinars can earn professional development clock hours. Mark your calendars and register to take part in this convenient, free IRC membership benefit.

September 5, 2018 ~ Nick Giacobbe
Constructionism in the Reading Workshop: Technology to Enhance Collaboration, Creation and Conversations

In the ever-changing landscape of educational technology, it can be challenging to identify effective, reliable tools that can aid our students in literacy and learning. In this session, we will examine a variety of free "tech tools" that can provide multiple means of engagement and expression in the reading workshop. With these tools, students can collaborate to create a wide variety of media that can serve as a focal point for discussion.

October 10, 2018 ~ Sheila Ruh and Sherry Sejnost
Innovation and Global Learning with Technology Tools

In this webinar, Sheila and Sherry will share technology resources that provide innovative and global learning opportunities for students. These interactive resources encourage collaboration, communication and critical thinking across content areas. Connecting our students with other classrooms and experts around the world increases motivation and engagement, and makes learning come alive for all students.

November 7, 2018 ~ Anne Cassidy
Oral Language Groups: How to Help our Youngest Readers Before They Are Ready for Guided Reading

Oral language groups are a tier one small group reading option for our students who are still working to attain concepts about print, directionality, one to one correspondence as well as letter and word knowledge. This small group is geared specifically for those who struggle to communicate orally, discuss a story, and/or hold a story in their head for writing. This two part (two day) reading intervention encompasses the oral reading of the alphabet, letter work (or word work), interactive read aloud and interactive writing (composing a group message).

December 5, 2018 ~ William Dwyer
Creating Rigorous Learning in Secondary Classrooms

This webinar will focus on structural and instructional changes to make in your school and classroom to empower and engage struggling and highly capable learners simultaneously. The webinar will begin with a philosophical construction of the reasons to support rigorous learning through literacy and then take listeners through specific school and classroom level changes that can be made to create high levels of learning for all students. This webinar will also explore the concepts of collective teacher efficacy, standards based grading, zone of proximal development, effective intervention structures at the secondary level and question formulation.

January 2, 2019 ~ Becky Anderson
Discovering the 2019 Illinois Reads Books

Join Becky Anderson as she presents the Illinois Reads books for 2019. Learn more about the Illinois Reads statewide literacy initiative that promotes reading for all Illinois citizens. Six books in six age bands from Birth to Adult will be shared. A variety of book topics and themes are chosen for each age band, highlighting the work of Illinois Authors.

February 6, 2019 ~ Patricia Starks Howard
I Like Me! Building Self Esteem in Black Students Through Children’s Literature

Since 1999, the Illinois Interactive Report Card has reported achievement gaps between Black students and their Hispanic and White peers. We believe that through knowledge of the culture, creative interventions, and resources, all children can reach success. "I Like Me," written and developed around Black culture and American history, is one way to reach students who are scoring below State and District standards. This webinar will help teachers become more culturally responsive in their teaching.

March 6, 2019 ~ Kate Roberts
A Novel Approach: Striking a Balance Between Whole Class Texts and Student Centered Teaching

In this webinar, Kate will dive into the central questions she explores in her book, A Novel Approach. How do we reconcile the need for complex texts read by a community of readers and the individual needs our students bring to our classrooms? How do I help every student grow as a reader while at the same time keeping my expectations high and centered on the tasks our students will face in the future?

April 3, 2019 ~ Gail Boushey and Allison Behne
CAFE Instruction Model: Assessment Through Instruction

The growing demands on teachers, mixed with the increasing differentiated needs of students, can leave us with many questions. With the new CAFE Instruction Model, learn how to devise an instructional plan based off assessment results, reading performance, and individual needs; create lessons that are brief, focused, and intentional; organize information in a conferring notebook that keeps record of student performance and next steps.

May 1, 2019 ~ Regie Routman
Introduction to Literacy Essentials: Engagement, Excellence, and Equity for ALL Learners

In this interactive webinar, Regie will discuss the framework and essentials that make high achievement and joyful learning possible for all learners. In the first section of her new book, she will focus on how we can and must collaborate to create classroom and school learning environments of high trust where all learners – students and teachers – feel respected, socially and emotionally safe, and intellectually invigorated.

June 5, 2019 ~ Karen Biggs-Tucker and Brian Tucker
Informational Texts Across the Curriculum

Don’t miss this informative evening with Karen and Brian! Join two veteran teachers as they share their classroom-tested strategies for engaging learners with informational texts throughout your instructional day. Then, peek into their classrooms to see how they use texts to teach standards-focused inquiry experiences that serve two purposes – to teach content and to help students grow as readers.

Register online at www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org